

Series II
Subjects Files,
1916-1973

Box 13, Folder 13

Correspondence with
Mrs. Lily Tanaka
regarding translation
work for Battle of
Leyte Gulf, 1953

0848

9 June 1953

Dear Mrs. Tanaka:

I have written to Mr. Kawakami and to Admiral Haffernan concerning the transferring to you for your temporary custody of Mr. Kawakami's papers relating to the study of the Battle for Leyte Gulf. This letter is to advise you that I desire you to take over these papers. I have told Mr. Kawakami that I was particularly interested in obtaining from him the translations and the correspondence between himself and my office on these translations, on the drafts of the Japanese side of the action, which he has been consulted on from time to time, and other related correspondence.

I have asked Mr. Kawakami to advise you that I wish the translations marked RESTRICTED. We are doing that up here now to our copies.

Once you have received the above papers, they are to be made available to no one without my permission.

As I told Mr. Kawakami, I view his departure with regret, and I know you must feel likewise.

Very truly yours,

R. W. BATES

Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka
Room 216 (H Bg) MAIN NAVY
Navy Department
Washington 25, D. C.

0849

15 June 1953

Commodore R. W. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, R.I.

Dear Commodore Bates:

Mr. Kawakami has turned over to me the file of correspondence and translations. In accordance with the instructions in your letter of 9 June 1953, I am stamping the translations RESTRICTED SECURITY INFORMATION.

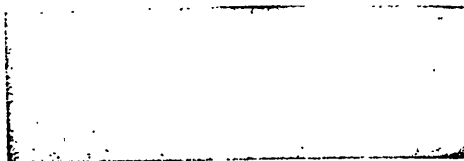
If there is no objection on your part, I would like to take leave starting from about Friday, 19 June, in order that the annual leave which is due me may be used up by 30 June, the deadline for taking leave earned in 1952.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

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0850

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 16 June 1953

FROM : Commodore Bates

SUBJECT:

I shall appreciate your kindness if you will re-translate Chief of Staff Combined Fleet's dispatch 170908 October 1944 to Main Force. We have two translations; one from the ZUIKAKU (Detailed Action Report ZUIKAKU, SHO No. 1 Operation, 20-25 October 1944, WDC Index No. 161008), which reads: "...It is possible he will attempt a major landing...."; the other from the HYUGA (Detailed Action Report HYUGA, SHO Operation, 20-29 October 1944, WDC Index No. 161006, NA Index No. 12604), stating "...There is a possibility he will attempt a large-scale landing....". It is of interest to know which is correct.

We will have some additional translations for you after you have completed the destroyers. I will wish, for example, to obtain the battle lessons from certain of the ships and top commands.

Would you like me to come down to Washington to discuss any matters?

Sincerely,

R. W. BATES.

0851

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 17 June 1953

FROM : COMO Bates

SUBJECT: Leave

1. Thank you for your letter of June 15th.
2. There is no objection on my part that you take leave commencing Friday, June 19th.

R.W. BATES

0852

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lily Tanaka

DATE: 26 June 1953

FROM : Como R.W. Bates

SUBJECT: Translations

1. It is my understanding that four DD Action Reports remain to be translated.
2. In translating these four DDs, please translate completely. That is, do not omit items such as battle training, rapid communications, weather data, etc, which were omitted in the translation of the FIRST Striking Force, but which are essential for proper appreciation of the operations of the Japanese ships.
3. With reference to the FIRST Striking Force, I would like you to translate the headings, now omitted, "Achievement, Battle Training, Rapid Communications" and the two charts, all which have been reported omitted. Are the YAMATO weather maps hard to copy?

0853

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

DATE:

FROM :

SUBJECT:

-2-

4. If the charts are difficult to copy, if you will advise me as to their nature I will advise you what procedure to follow.
5. I hope that you have enjoyed your leave.
6. Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

R.W. BATES

0854

Captain Okuma

Statement by Ex Rear Admiral Takata (Toshitane), Assistant Chief of Staff of the Combined Fleet at the time of Sho Operation is shown as follows:

When an US Task Force attacked the Nansei Islands on 10 October 1944, Admiral Toyoda, the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet was at Shinchiku, Formosa, on his way back to Japan from Manila. The Staff Air Officer, C-in-C's Aide and myself were with him at the time. Chief of Staff Kusaka (Ryunosuke) and the rest of the staffs had remained at the Headquarters in Hiyoshi (near Tôkio).

The attack by the U.S. Task Force at that time was believed to have carried out because the enemy had underestimated our air strength. We rejoiced, thinking that the opportunity had come for successfully carrying out a counter attack employing T Air Attack Force.

At about 0930 hours on the same day the Headquarters in Hiyoshi alerted the Base Air Force for Sho Operations No 2 and prepared to have the T Air Attack Force attack at the right moment. C-in-C Toyoda, who was then at Shinchiku, also alerted the Base Air Force for the Sho Operation Nos 1 and 2, before he was informed of this issuance of the order from Tokyo. As it turned out, however, his issuance of the order was three hours after that from Tokyo. This conduct on the part of the Headquarters in Hiyoshi gave such an impression to Admiral Toyoda that the Headquarters in Hiyoshi would issue further orders keeping close contact with the Imperial General Headquarters. He, therefore, expected the Headquarters in Hiyoshi to contact Imperial General Headquarters, and issue the orders for the Base Air Force to begin the Sho Operation, however, no such orders were issued even on the following day. He, therefore, suggested by telegram to the Headquarters in Hiyoshi that "the orders to begin the operation be issued from Hiyoshi after a thorough discussion of the matter with the Navy Department of the Imperial General Headquarters."

It was, therefore, understood that the orders issued by the Hiyoshi Headquarters to the Base Air Force regarding the commencement of the Sho Operation were issued with the full approval of Imperial GHQ. The Hiyoshi Headquarters which was in a position to readily contact Imperial GHQ constantly issued orders and disposed of necessary matters while C-in-C Toyoda was in Formosa. An order to continue the air attack to exploit the battle results was the only order issued from Shinchiku, Formosa where the situation was clear, gathering informations from returned air crews, and the order was issued on the 15th Oct.

0855

Alert Condition of Land Base Air Force

- I. No 1. Alert (Most Probable Case of Enemy Raid; All Hands in Their Stations always)
- (a) All operational planes will be placed at Short Notice.
 - (b) Air crews will wait orders, sitting nearby the Commanders' position and take rest.
 - (c) Engineers will continue their work around their assigned places or take rest.
- II. No 2. Alert (Probably Case of Enemy Raid; All Hands in their Stations in Two Shifts)
- (a) All operational planes will be placed at Short Notice.
 - (b) Necessary (or designated) number of planes will be completed preparations for search and reconnaissance.
- III. No 3. Alert (Probable Case of Enemy Night Raid; Specially Assigned Members in Their Stations)
- (a) Night fighters were placed at Short Notice.
 - (b) In moonlight night only, designated number of day fighters will be also placed at Short Notice.
 - (c) If necessary, some dive bomber will be completed preparations for counterattack against enemy submarine (or other type of vessels) bombardment.
 - (d) Other planes will be under shelter or dispersed.
- (Note) Planes at Short Notice are in the following condition:
- (1) Complete preparations for flight and warming up engines for immediate take-off.
 - (2) Full load of gas and oil.
 - (3) Equipment of bombs on day fighters.
 - (4) By a separate order, fighters will take-off for air combat patrol.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 1 July 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I enjoyed my leave very much but nevertheless am glad to be back.
2. I found your memorandums of 19 and 26 June upon my return to the office this morning and regret that my reply has been delayed.
3. Re 19 June memorandum on Chief of Staff SW Area dispatch 191651
 The correct version of Paragraph 2 should read:
 Orders for the advancement of Fifth Fleet and
 Grudiv 16 with respect to the above will be
 issued after plans have been generally completed.
 A search of the documents on hand has failed to turn up any other copy
 of this dispatch.
4. Re 26 June memorandum Paragraph 2 which states in part, "In translating these
 2 DDs. please translate completely. That is, do not omit items such as battle
 training, rapid communications, weather data, etc ..." By "battle training"
 do you mean battle lessons? Also, what does "rapid communications" import? If
 this refers to the message log, then all orders, messages, etc appearing for the
 first time will be translated in full and the origin, addressees, time of receipt,
 etc of previously translated ones will be noted as per previous instructions.
5. Re 26 June memorandum Paragraph 3 which states, "With reference to the FIRST
 Striking Force, I would like you to translate the headings, now omitted, 'Achieve-
 ment, Battle Training, Rapid Communications' and the two charts, all which have
 been reported omitted. Are the YAMATO weather maps hard to copy?" Does this
 refer to a specific document or documents? If this refers to the First Striking
 Force DetAcRep, this document was translated by Captain Rochefort. Do the two
 charts refer to weather maps? If so, there are two weather maps attached to the
 First Striking Force DetAcRep which will not be difficult to copy, but there are
 no weather maps attached to the YAMATO DetAcRep document.
6. I am presently in the process of translating GA TONE DetAcRep which is one of
 our longer documents, and accordingly it will require some time for completion.
 Therefore, I would appreciate your instructions as to whether I should complete
 this document and the three remaining DDs before I undertake the assignment out-
 lined in Paragraph 3 of the 26 June memorandum.

0857

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

DATE:

FROM :

SUBJECT:

7. Enclosed you will find the replies of Captain Ohmae to Mr. Kawakami's queries.
8. I hope that the weather up at Newport is a little more pleasant than that which we are experiencing here.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0858

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 2 July 1953

FROM : Commodore Bates

SUBJECT:

In your recent translation of the HAGURO Detailed Action Report, both the WDC and NA index numbers have been omitted. The typing of this report has been completed, and I would therefore appreciate your obtaining these index numbers and forwarding them to me so that I may return the original translation and copies to you.

I am enclosing several translations which we have recently finished copying.

With best regards,

R. W. BATES

0859

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 2 July 1953

FROM : Como Bates

SUBJECT:

1. Can you find Main Force Operation Order No. 1 issued on October 18th and shown in Detailed Action Report ZUIKAKU, SHO One Operations, October 20th-25th, 1944, WDC Index No. 161008?
2. Also, can you find Mobile Force Main Body dispatch 190831 October 19th, 1944 referred to in Mobile Force dispatch 200021 October 19th, 1944?

R.W. BATES

0860

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 7 July 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. The omitted index numbers for the HAGURO DetAcRep are as follows:

WDC Index No: 161747

NA Index No: Unassigned

2. Mobile Force Main Body Operation Order No. 1 issued on 18 Oct is a written order, and, accordingly, as is the case for all written orders, the text of the order does not appear in any of the available documents.

3. I have been unable to locate Mobile Force Main Body dispatch 190831 referred to in Mobile Force dispatch 200021.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

① Entered on Document
7/11/53 Cam

0861

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 27 July 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I hope you had a pleasant time in California.
2. Attached please find ⁸ TONE Reference Materials 1 & 2 and TONE Action Chart.
3. The TONE Track Chart has already been submitted.
4. The appended TONE damage charts have been omitted as unessential.
5. Reference Material 3 - TONE Gunnery Action Record - and the gunnery battle lessons will not be translated at this time owing to their technical nature which will require some research.

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0862

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 22 July 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I hope you are well and are enjoying your trip to California as scheduled.
2. Inasmuch as the TONE DetAcRep is quite voluminous, I am sending ahead the completed sections of the document in order to facilitate the typing. The remainder of the document consisting of charts and a section on gunnery battle lessons not covered in the main battle lessons section will be forwarded later.

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0863

9 July 1953

Dear Mrs. Tanaka:

I have received your letter of July 1, and I am happy to know that you enjoyed your leave and have returned to the job.

Please complete the TONE and the three DDs before you undertake the assignment outlined in my memo of June 26. In doing these DDs, I would appreciate your making a complete translation except for any data which is obviously unnecessary.

I don't know whether "Battle Training" means "Battle Lessons" or not. You are the translator, and you can determine that better than I. What I am seeking is information concerning the Japanese command, and from the "Battle Lessons" I can sometimes learn why they think they failed. The reason I wish to have weather data is that we are trying to make weather charts to go with the write-up, and by a study of the weather we can determine whether flights should or should not have been made, whether ships should have been sighted, etc. I only want a few weather reports; particularly those coinciding with the movements of the First Striking Force and those at the time of the battle off Samar. I am also interested in discovering how the Main Force moved out through the Inland Sea, commencing on the 20th, and wasn't sighted for four days. Could this have been due, in part, to weather, or simply to the inadequacy of the Allied searches? I think that the weather charts of the YAMATO, if they can be copied, will be helpful.

I am at present in the hospital, where I will remain perhaps until tomorrow. I was to go to California for a couple of weeks, starting Sunday. We shall see.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely,

R. W. BATES

0864

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lilly Tanaka

DATE: 29 July 1953

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates, USN

SUBJECT: War Diary 701st Air Group

1. Will you please locate and translate the War Diary 701st Air Group, WDC Index No. 160258, NA Index No. 12592. It is assumed to be available inasmuch as we have some previously translated dispatches citing it as a source.

2. If it is not too long, I desire that you translate it in its entirety otherwise you need translate only that portion covering the period October 16th-31st. Some scraps of information relating to the strength of this group are available in other documents but are so conflicting as to preclude analysis.

R.W. BATES

0865

3 August 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Mrs. Lily Tanaka

1. I am trying to find the normal operating complements of planes for the three ships of CARDIV THREE (ZUHIO, CHITOSE, CHIYODA) and the additional ship added to that carrier division for the Leyte operation, viz. ZUIKAKU.
2. The Japanese translation (Wartime Organization of the Imperial Navy in the Great East Asia War, as revised 15 Aug 1944 by Imperial General Headquarters Navy Section Staff Order No. 608-81, WDC Index No. 216766 (Microfilm) NA Index No. None), gives a total of 144 planes for the first three carriers with forty-eight planes in reserve and Captain Ohmae's letter to Mr. Kawakami of about May 23rd, 1952 (Concerning Carrier Aircraft Situation Prior to Battle for Leyte Gulf) states that there were on the ZUIKAKU twenty-four Tenzan, twenty-four Suisei, and twenty-seven fighters.
3. Was it Japanese practice to carry reserve planes on board or, as seems most likely, was it the practice to leave them ashore at the operating base. If the former is correct we would have on the three carriers 192 planes (Ohmae as well as the Wartime Organization) and on the ZUIKAKU seventy-five planes (Ohmae)--a total of 267 planes. If the latter is correct we would have a total of 219 planes.
4. Have you anything in amplification?

R.W. BATES

0866

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTTO : *<Mrs. Lily Tanaka>*DATE: *<4 August 1953>*

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates, USN

SUBJECT:

1. I am enclosing herewith a copy of a dispatch which I hope that you will check.
2. Firstly, I should like to know whether you can determine with whom the dispatch originated and to whom it was sent. Secondly, I should like you to check the figures in it as my addition shows (a) total available aircraft as 398 and not 395, and (b) total operational aircraft as 223 and not 221 as shown in the dispatch.
3. I hope that you can find the error.

R.W. BATES

0867

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 6 August 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT: Re memorandum of 3 August 1953

I have searched carefully all available material and hope the following information will serve to answer your question.

1. The following data were extracted from a table entitled "Combined Fleet Organization" in the Wartime Organization of the Imperial Navy in the Great East War, as revised 15 August 1944 by Imperial General Headquarters Navy Section Staff Order No. 608-81, WDC Index No. 216766 (microfilm).

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| Cardiv 3 | CHITOSE CHIYODA ZUIHO ZUIKAKU | |
| | 653rd Air Group | 164th Fighter Unit 165th Fighter Unit 166th Fighter Unit 263rd Attack Unit |

Inasmuch as in the reorganization ZUIKAKU was included in Cardiv 3, it would appear the 144/48 figures given in "Table Showing Organization and Aircraft Complements of Air Units in the Wartime Organization of the Imperial Navy" include ZUIKAKU aircraft.

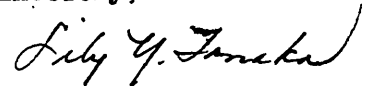
2. Lt. Cdr. Shizuo Fukui (compiler of Japanese Naval Vessels at the End of War, April 25, 1947) in his book Japanese Warship Construction (ZOKAN GLJUTSU NO ZEMBO), published Oct 1952, gives the following figures for the designed plane capacity of the carriers in question.

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| ZUIHO | 27 (3) |
| CHITOSE | 30 (0) |
| CHIYODA | 30 (0) |
| ZUIKAKU | 72 (12) |
| | <u>159 (15)</u> |

Figures in parens indicate reserve aircraft.

From the above it would not appear possible that the normal operating aircraft complements of the four carriers would total 219, let alone 267. The figures 144/48 would, therefore, indicate the combined complements of the air units and not that of the carriers.

Sincerely,



Lily Y. Tanaka

0868

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

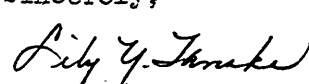
DATE: 10 August 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT: Re memorandum of 4 August

1. I have been unable to locate in any other document the 1338 19 Oct dispatch from TAKAO Air Base regarding 6 FGB strength on FORMOSA as of 0800 1st Oct.
2. All figures in the translation have been checked with the original and they are all correct, including the "incorrect" totals for available and operational aircraft.

Sincerely,



Lily Y. Tanaka

0869

14 August 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Mrs. Lily Tanaka

This is in regard to your memorandum of ^{August} October 12th, 1953.

I don't care what order you translate the remaining destroyers, but I want the 701st Air Group War Diary translated first.

We are being delayed in solving the land-based air notably as regards the number of planes available to the SIXTH Base Air Force because of a lack of information concerning the 701st Air Group. We feel that if we can get the War Diary of that group, particularly for the days October 16th, 17th and 18th we will solve our problem. I wish it for 19th-28th as well.

I was disappointed to note that your translation of the KIYOSHIMO omitted paragraphs I Situation, II Plans. I would like to have that information because it indicates the type of intelligence available to the destroyer commander or cruiser commander at the time mentioned.

After you have completed translating the 701st Air Group I should like you to provide me the information that is missing in the KIYOSHIMO translation as mentioned above.

I hope that things are going well with you.

R.W. BATES

0870

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 17 August 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I am now translating the 701st Air Group War Diary. It will be a full translation and not just extracts of the particular days (Oct 16 - 28) mentioned in your memorandum of 14 August.
2. As for the KIYOSHIMO DetAcRep, no part has been omitted from the translation. The sections I Situation and II Plans were marked omitted in the original and were not omitted by me. Any omissions made by me will have a Translator's Note giving the reason for the omission.
3. I hope you are not finding my work too unsatisfactory. I realize my limitations and would appreciate any criticisms or suggestions that you may have regarding my work.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0871

August 21, 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Mrs. Lily Tanaka

I am in receipt of your memorandum concerning your plans, and they are satisfactory. We are quite anxious to get the 701st Air Group as its absence delays the completion of the 6th Base Air Force operations.

I am wondering if there is anything for air operations of the 4th Air Army or 5th Base Air Force which have not been translated by you. Mr. Kawakami was satisfied that there were no more, but your discovery of the 701st Air Group would indicate that perhaps there are others.

I am quite pleased with your work and you need have no concern on that score.

With very best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

R.W. BATES

Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka
Room 216 (H Bq) MAIN NAVY
Navy Department
Washington 25, D.C.

0872

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 28 September 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I have spent the last two weeks at the National Archives searching for documents on the various air units requested by you and CDR Hindman. The search was not too productive considering the time and energy expended (the work was extremely tiring and dirty), but you no doubt are aware of what we are up against in looking for Japanese documents at the Archives. The Archives does not have a catalogue or an index card system for these documents, but merely provides an inadequate and inaccurate list with little regard to subject matter or chronology. Accordingly, a systematic search was made of the boxes (in which the documents are placed) bearing the numbers indicated by the Archives list as containing the bulk of the World War II documents. Also, a spot check was made of the remaining naval documents likely to contain material relevant to the LEYTE Operation.

2. Though the search has failed to locate the material specifically requested by you and CDR Hindman - 5FGB, 331st Air Gp (309th and 253rd Fighter Units) and 381st Air Gp (602nd and 902nd Fighter Units) - it has brought to light the following documents:

- a. 708th Attack Unit DetAcRep, Night Torpedo Attack on Enemy Task Force off TAIWAN, 12 Oct 1944
NA 12410, WDC 160579
- b. 708th Attack Unit DetAcRep, Night Torpedo Attack on Enemy Task Force off TAIWAN, 16 Oct 1944
NA 13306, WDC 161446
- c. 51st Air Flot DetAcRep No. 4, 10 Oct - 15 Nov 1944
(Covering activities from the time Cdr, NAB moved up to the KANTO area and up to the deactivation of 51st Air Flot)
NA 12262, WDC 161645
- d. DetAcRep of Night Searches, Flying Boat Unit of 901st Air Gp, 10 - 28 Oct 1944
(Type-97 flying boats in the SHO Operation)
NA 12402, WDC 160551
- ✓ e. War Diary, 101st Air Flot, 1 - 31 Oct 1944
(Includes data on the air-ferrying of aircraft and the moving up of operational forces to TAIWAN and the PHILIPPINES)
NA 12542, WDC 160304
- f. War Diary, 131st Air Gp, 1 - 31 Oct 1944
(Covering activities of the main body and detachments)
NA 12560, WDC 160246

0873

- ✓ g. 254th Air Gp DetAcRep, 1 - 31 Oct 1944
(Includes material on fighter aircraft which moved up to TAIWAN and the PHILIPPINES. Good message log.)
NA 12431, WDC 161428
- ✓ h. War Diary, NICHIEI MARU, 1 - 31 Oct 1944
(Includes good message log)
NA 11838, WDC 160148
- i. War Diary, 18th Squadron* (LUZON Strait Force), 1 - 31 Oct 1944
(Covering activities of Minesweeper Division 21 and 953rd Air Gp. A chart on American submarine activities is also included.)
NA 11769, WDC 161023
*T.N. - Will have to check on correct designation.

Would you be interested in having any of these documents translated, and, if so, in what order?

3. I intend to spend another day or two at the Archives to make a spot check of the Japanese War Ministry documents inasmuch as the Archives list indicates the presence of naval documents among them. Also, as a last resort, a final search of the Japanese documents at the Records Center can be made, but as to this matter I shall await your instruction.

With best regards to you and CDR Hindman.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0874

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 14 September 1953

FROM : Commodore Bates

SUBJECT:

1. CDR Hindman of this section is flying to Washington on Wednesday, September 16th (weather permitting), and will drop in for a brief visit to say "hello." Should arrive about 1100.

With best regards,

R. W. BATES.

0875

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 28 August 1953

FROM : Commodore Bates

SUBJECT:

1. Do you have anything there from the 331st Air Group?
2. Apparently, the greater portion of the 331st Air Group moved from the Singapore area to the Philippines. We have an action report of the 253rd Attack Unit (331st Air Group) covering 20 Oct - 13 Nov. Is anything available on either 331st Air Group or 309th Fighter Unit of this Group. If so, will you please translate.
3. We have no indication of units of the 381st Air Group (602nd and 902nd Fighter Units) participating in the Leyte operation. However, if any reports from these units are available, will you please check for possible participation (or supply of reinforcements).

Best regards,

R. W. BATES

0876

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 14 Oct 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. I am forwarding for your information a copy of a memorandum sent to Naval History Division with regard to my work. Capt. S. G. Kelly, Executive Officer of Naval History Division, called me in this morning and instructed me to submit to him a memorandum (copy enclosed) on the nature of my work, which he in turn would forward to Op-342.
2. Op-29, from all indications, is not anxious to carry me on its roster, so I do not know how this issue will be resolved. I hope, however, that the matter can be settled without too much difficulty.
3. I have been out two days with the flu but hope to speed up the work in order to make up for lost time.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0877

c o p y

Op-34/fp
Ser 1188P34

29 Sep 1953

MEMORANDUM

From: DCNO (Operations)
To: DCNO (Administration)

Subj: Position No. 402, occupied by Lily Y. Tanaka

1. Subject position was established March 1951 for the purpose of translating reports in connection with the writing of Historical Analysis of World War II, specifically Area Campaigns.
2. This position has been carried under the ceiling of Op-03 (Op-342). However, the work is being done in the old Navy Building under limited supervision by Op-29. Op-342 does not supervise or keep track in any way of the occupant's performance of duties. The efficiency ratings are now being prepared by Op-29 (Op-297).
3. In view of the above, it is recommended that position No. 402 be transferred to Op-29 and that this position not be carried under the ceiling limits of DCNO (Operations) (Op-342).

W. G. Schindler
By direction

0878

14 October 1953

From: Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka
To: Capt. S. G. Kelly, Op-29B
Ref: Your oral request this date in regard to Mr. Schindler's letter of 29 September 1953.

1. My work is concerned primarily with the exploitation of Japanese documents pertaining to operations in the Philippines' actions of late 1944. About 80% of the work consists of translating these documents into English, and about 20% is research.
2. I was first engaged in present occupation on 29 March 1951 as assistant translator to Mr. C. H. Kawakami, and worked under his supervision until 12 June 1953, when his contract expired. Since then I have been doing all research and translation.
3. My translations are made for Commodore R. W. Bates USN and sent to him in manuscript form at the Naval War College, Newport, R. I. There they are typed and carbon copies are returned to me for checking and further research. One set is retained as my file copy and other copies are delivered to Op-291-0 for information and reference.
4. It is my understanding that the physical location of my position in Washington, like that of Mr. Kawakami's, was determined by the presence of the Japanese documents in the National Archives here. Op-29 has provided office space and accommodations as a courtesy to Commodore Bates, in exchange for which he provides information copies of the finished translations.
5. Under the guidance of Mr. Kawakami and with assistance from Mr. R. Pineau (Op-291-0), who has also helped by obtaining information from Japanese ex-naval officers, I have become well acquainted with the intricacies of translating Japanese naval documents and their arrangement in the National Archives.
6. The scope and direction of my work is determined by the requirements of Commodore Bates who is, accordingly, in better position to indicate how long my services will be required.

Lily Y. Tanaka

0879

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Tanaka

DATE: 15 October 1953

FROM : Commodore Bates

SUBJECT:

I expect to be in Washington Monday, Tuesday and forenoon Wednesday of next week and plan to see you concerning translations. I will communicate with you by telephone in order to set the time of meeting.

I expect to arrive in Washington Sunday night October 18th.

R.W. BATES

0000

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 6 November 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. Enclosed please find the remainder of the 51st Air Flot DetAcRep No. 4 translation.
2. The Japanese grid positions in the translation have not been worked out since I believe this can be done more accurately at Newport.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

0881

November 19, 1953

MEMORANDUM

To: Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka

Subj: Japanese Document

1. In recently going through the MacArthur History in Washington one document referred to appeared to contain some material on the FOURTH Air Army during the Leyte operation. Unfortunately it was in Japanese so little could be determined as to its actual content.
2. Unfortunately also, such referenced documents can not be removed or loaned outside the Office of Military History. They will permit you to check the document for information of value to us and translate whatever you desire. You can make arrangements to do so by telephoning Dr. Louis Morton at Department of Defense extension 63496.
3. The title of the document in full is:
Outline of Operations and Lessons of the Leyte Campaign, Army Section, Imperial General Headquarters, 26 February 1945.
4. Appended table III appears to be a summary of FOURTH Air Army sorties, day to day, with notations of their successes and losses. Another fold out table appears to be some form of day to day strength figures, but as I say, the document is in Japanese and that is only a slightly corroborated guess.
5. As you know the type of material which is most needed, you are the best judge of what material is worth translating; we are particularly interested in strength figures, locations, losses, attacks and claims of damage (and damage suffered) between 17 and 26 October.
6. Please check the above document and advise whether it contains information of any value to us.

R.W. BATES

0882

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 27 Nov 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. Thank you very much for your phone call.
2. Enclosed please find the completed translation of Appended Table III of the document "Outline of Operations and Lessons of the Leyte Campaign". One other table on Japanese and American air strength will be sent up as soon as possible.
3. My telephone number has been changed owing to a shift in desks in our office and is now - extension 64191 (or 64551).

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

9-38

0883

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore R. W. Bates

DATE: 27 Nov 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. Enclosed please find the completed translation of DetAcRep of Night Searches, 901st Air Gp.
2. Unless otherwise advised, I would like to take some time off from translation to check the translations which have been returned from Newport. Mr. Kawakami considered this essential in view of the numerous typographical errors discovered by us even after the translations had been checked at Newport. Because of the work pressure preceding Mr. Kawakami's departure and my inability to find time subsequent to that, all translations returned by Newport from this spring have remained unchecked and, as a result, have not been filed. It has been our practice to check all translations before placing them in our files. In order to make sure that all translations available to you are as free from error as possible, and also in order to facilitate my own work, I would like very much at this time to get caught up on the checking.

With best wishes for a very pleasant Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

Lily Y. Tanaka

A-88

0004

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lily Tanaka

DATE: 1 December 1953

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates

SUBJECT:

1. In DESRON 1 War Diary there is a dispatch 0834 of October 20th where it says, "From Combined Fleet to Flag 5th Fleet; Flag DESRON 1 - 1600 20 Oct. (TAKAO Naval Guard District; Flag SW Area Force)."

2. Question: Is the material in the parens the information addressees? If so why have we dropped the word info which has been used later?

R.W. BATES

0885

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 3 December 1953

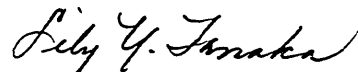
FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. In GF DesOpOrd No. 460, TAKAO Naval Guard District and Flag, SW Area Force are the info addressees. For some reason the notation "(info addressees in parens)" was omitted in the column heading. Also, it is customary to put the time of receipt after the info addressees instead of before as in this translation.

2. Are you still planning to come to Washington next week? If you are, I am hoping you will be able to spare me a few minutes as I would like your advice on some matters.

Sincerely,



Lily Y. Tanaka

0886

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka

DATE: 18 December 1953

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates

SUBJECT:

1. Please send me immediately the pamphlets on Japanese Operations which you feel we should obtain from the Army Historical Division. Among these should be the replies by General MacArthur to a questionnaire prepared apparently by Doctor Morton. Another one should be one of several pamphlets which you had on your desk in the Army Historical Division Building.

2. In my discussion with you, I stated that it was necessary to expedite your suggestions while the impact of my visit was still with them. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

R.W. BATES

0007

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Commodore Bates

DATE: 21 December 1953

FROM : Lily Y. Tanaka

SUBJECT:

1. Enclosed please find the completed translation of the remainder of the Daily Record of the War Situation. Because of the abbreviations, code names, etc used in this document, I was forced to do a considerable amount of research, but, fortunately, with one or two minor exceptions, I was able to clarify all the points to my satisfaction.

2. With regard to your memorandum of 18 December, Dr. Morton suggests that you write to OCMH requesting loan of the documents of interest to us in the MacArthur footlockers. OCMH would then take up the matter with the Adjutant General's Office which is officially in custody of the documents. Should, however, this request be refused, I imagine there would be no objection to your making arrangements to have a typist sent over to copy any document in English which is of interest to you. The documents in Japanese, of course, can be translated by me at OCMH. However, with regard to the replies by General MacArthur to a questionnaire prepared by Doctor Morton, the copying or loan of this particular document would have to be taken up separately with General Smith.

Documents is the MacArthur footlockers of interest to us:
(Official title of collection: GHQ-FEC Special Historical Collection: Supporting Documents to General Douglas MacArthur's Historical Report on Allied Operations in the Southwest Pacific Area)

Document in English in which you expressed interest
Answer to Questionnaire No. 10 (Item 10, Footlocker No. 10)

Documents in Japanese to be translated

1. Document Regarding Southwest Area Operation (Item 22, Footlocker No. 5)
2. Extracts from Private Papers of Former Japanese Officials and Officers (Items 30 & 31, Footlocker No. 7)

A OCMH microfilm of Reports to the Throne by Chief of Naval General Staff is obtainable, so this will not have to be requested from the MacArthur documents.

All the monographs and other material such as Imp GHQ Army & Navy orders and directives in the MacArthur Footlockers are listed in the OCMH accession lists sent to Naval War College, so you no doubt already have copies of these documents and their titles will not be listed here.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Lily Y. Tanaka

0000

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka

DATE: 30 Dec 1953

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates

SUBJECT:

1. Please translate for me in the following order:
 - a. The pages we discussed recently in Washington from Colonel Hattori's book on the Leyte Operation, wherein he discusses the trip to Manila on October 20th.
 - b. That information which you have from Commander Southwest Area, wherein he discusses his operations.
2. The above two translations are very important in writing up October 20th. I am being delayed why waiting for the above data.
3. I don't think that I want you to browse around through MacArthur's references any more for the present as it is preventing you from translating the above which were a real find. Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

R.W. BATES

0889

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mrs. Lily Y. Tanaka

DATE: 31 December 1953

FROM : COMO R.W. Bates

SUBJECT: Rough Draft

1. With reference to the matters we were discussing the other day I am enclosing herewith a rough draft of three pages of my chapter on Cinc Combined Fleet's operations on the 20th. This is an indication of why I think Colonel Hattorri's comments on the same subject are important.
2. The considerations I have put down here on page two are those I remember reading in Colonel Hattorri's article. The large number of carriers commented on was based on that report from the FOURTH Air Army which you recently translated.
3. Happy New Year!
4. If you see anything in error here please advise.

Sincerely yours,

R.W. BATES

0890